

A) Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A surgical hand support for positioning a human thumb for performing surgical procedures on the volar side of ~~a human~~ the thumb, the support comprising:

 a rigid support including an elongate forearm support plate with a hand support plate and a thumb support plate extending from said forearm support plate and dimensioned for respectively engaging the back of an individual's hand and the thumb of said hand;

 said hand support plate extending upwardly from a wrist bend on a forward edge of said forearm support plate at an obtuse angle;

 said thumb support plate extending upwardly from a side edge of said forearm support plate adjacent said wrist bend and at an obtuse angle;

 said thumb support plate also extending forward from said side edge at an obtuse angle;

 adjustable strap means for respectively firmly securing said forearm to said forearm plate, said hand to said hand plate in a position of volar flexion of the wrist and said thumb to said thumb plate in a position of abduction up and out of the plane of the palm whereby the volar side of said thumb is suitably exposed and presented for surgery.

Claim 2 (original): The surgical hand support of claim 1 wherein said obtuse upward angle for said hand support plate is approximately 135° and said obtuse upward and forward angles for said thumb support plate are each approximately 120°.

Claim 3 (original): The surgical hand support of claim 1 wherein said adjustable strap means includes a strap on said forearm plate positioned for retaining the wrist of said hand bent inwardly at said wrist bend.

Claim 4 (original): The surgical hand support of claim 3 wherein said adjustable strap means includes multiple strap positioning slots in said hand and thumb support plates providing multiple selections for positioning securing straps.

Claim 5 (original): The surgical hand support of claim 4 wherein said straps are secured with hook and loop fasteners.